REMARKS

I. Claim Objection

The objection to claim 38 is moot, as this claim has been cancelled.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 11, 16-22, 24, 26, 29, 34-38, 40, 44-49, 57-62, 64, 66, 69 and 74-76 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,155,433 in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,560,294.

Claims 77-80, 82, 84, 88 and 91-93 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,155,433 in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,560,294 and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,421,380.

These claims have been cancelled without prejudice.

III. Claim Objections/Allowable Subject Matter

The applicant appreciates the Examiner's finding that claims 5, 7, 9, 10, 12-15, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30-33, 39, 41-43, 50-56, 63, 65, 67, 68, 70-73, 81, 83, 85-87, 89 and 90 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of base claims and any intervening claims. Applicant notes that the indication of claim 29 as being allowable appears to be in error in that claim 29 was previously rejected over U.S. Pat. No. 6,155,433 in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,560,294, and that claim 29 was not listed as being objected to on the Office Action Summary form PTOL-326. Accordingly, claim 29 has been cancelled.

The claims have been amended so that each independent claim includes the limitations of corresponding original base claims and intervening claims. Dependent claims 14, 32, 55, and 72 depend from allowable independent claims, as amended. Accordingly, all pending claims, as amended, are in allowable form. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are presently in condition for allowance. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees and credit any overpayment associated with this response to Jones Day Deposit Account No. 501432, ref: 098417-610018.

Respectfully submitted,

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